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ALBANIA. 6 May—Frontier incident (*see Yugoslavia*).

ARGENTINA. 18 May—A £3,500,000 one-year trade agreement was signed with Bulgaria.

AUSTRALIA. 11 May—Mr Chifley, Prime Minister, said in an address to the federal executive of the Labour Party that the dollar exchange problem was being aggravated by America's reduction of imports from Australia, and that by the end of 1951 sterling countries would find difficulty in buying sufficient U.S. goods.

15 May—*Pacific Defence*. Mr Chifley, Prime Minister, said in a broadcast that planning for the defence of the Pacific was going on parallel with planning for the defence of the North Atlantic area. The approach to a common scheme for defence of the Pacific should be by agreement between Britain, Australia, and New Zealand; thereafter with the United States, and later with other nations with possessions in the Pacific.

AUSTRIA. 7 May—Measures which were announced to forestall a threatened Budget deficit of about 2,000 million schillings included the ending of the food and coal subsidies, an increase in the rates of certain publicly-owned enterprises, a rise in the purchase tax, the institution of an 'occupation cost tax', and the abolition of the price stop. In order to compensate for the rise in prices and living costs there would be certain wage adjustments.

10 May—The Chancellor, Dr Figl, announced that the Austrian peace treaty would be on the agenda of the Council of Foreign Ministers.

11 May—Parliament unanimously passed a resolution appealing to the four Powers to conclude a peace treaty.

14 May—Gen. Scheltov, Soviet deputy High Commissioner, informed Dr Figl that control of goods traffic between the Russian and the western Zones would be eased as from 25 May.

17 May—Thousands of Communists demonstrated in Vienna against the increased taxes and prices approved by the Government.

BELGIUM. 12 May—*Atlantic Pact*. The Senate approved the ratification of the pact by 127 votes to 13 (Communists).

18 May—The King's secretariat issued the text of a letter which he had sent to M. Spaak protesting against certain press attacks which disparaged the dignity of the Crown and as such were detrimental to the country.

BRAZIL. 18 May—President Dutra in Washington (*see United States*).

BRITISH EAST AFRICA. 5 May—During the course of a four-day visit to Kenya, Mr Creech Jones, Secretary of State for the Colonies, declared in an interview that Tanganyika was British territory and that Britain would not tolerate any diminution of her position there. The U.N. mission's report (published on 8 November) had contained pro-

posals that were 'unrealistic and cannot possibly operate. We will accept only those recommendations of the . . . report which will promote the economic and social prosperity of Tanganyika'. He also emphasized that Europeans would continue to play a large part in the economic developments of all the British colonies in Africa. Referring to his Salisbury speech (see p. 289) he said that while there was no intention of diminishing the white settlement in Northern Rhodesia the Government had also to consider their obligations to the native peoples when considering any new land development plans.

11 May—Reply to U.N. report on Tanganyika and statement by Lord Listowel (see *Great Britain*).

BULGARIA. 18 May—Trade agreement (see *Argentina*).

BURMA. 11 May—Mr Bevin on joint assistance (see *Great Britain*).

12 May—An unknown plane dropped sixty to seventy parachutists into rebel-held territory in the Karenni States, according to Government sources in Rangoon.

The Indian Embassy in Rangoon broadcast a warning to the rebels that any harm done to Indians in their hands would be considered a breach of international law, and demanded the immediate release of any Indians held captive.

The Government announced that the promised Commonwealth assistance did not involve an invitation to join the Commonwealth, that no army nor army personnel would be included in this assistance, and that there had been no suggestion on the part of the Commonwealth nations that the Government should 'compose its differences with any section' of the insurgents as a condition for assistance.

16 May—Rebel bands ambushed two military trains near Shwebo. In the ensuing battle fifty rebels were reported killed and three Government soldiers wounded. In the Irrawaddy Delta, sixty miles south-west of Rangoon, Government troops encountered a rebel force and inflicted heavy casualties.

CANADA. 6 May—Mr Howe on Anglo-Canadian trade (see *Great Britain*).

8 May—Mr Howe, Minister of Trade and Commerce, returned to Ottawa from London.

9 May—Mr Noel Baker on Anglo-Canadian trade (see *Great Britain*). Mr Howe confirmed, in a speech, that arrangements had been made for Britain to buy more Canadian goods, subject to an agreement on prices. He also said that he had emphasized in London the Government's dislike of Britain's bilateral deals. British manufacturers were making great efforts to get into the Canadian market and special attempts were being made to export to Canada heavy engineering equipment.

An Indian military mission led by Mr Patel arrived in Ottawa from Washington for consultations.

14 May—Mr Wilson, President of the Board of Trade, arrived in Ottawa after visiting Halifax, Nova Scotia, and St John, New Brunswick.

CANADA (*continued*)

16 May—Mr Wilson, speaking in Ottawa, said that Britain's bilateral deals were not a permanent instrument of her trading policy and denied that they had resulted in any loss to the Canadian market. He also declared that Britain did not intend to buy wheat from the U.S.S.R.

CEYLON. 10 May—Appointment of British military adviser (*see Great Britain*).

11 May—Mr Bevin on joint assistance to Burma (*see Great Britain*).

CHINA. 5 May—A Communist broadcast reported that Nationalist planes had recently raided the Nanyuan airfield near Peking. The Communists claimed to have captured several more towns south of the Yangtze, including Shunan and Ihsien. The Nationalists reported the repulse of two Communist columns at Taichang, twenty-seven miles north-west of Shanghai.

Four members of an alleged Communist fifth column in Shanghai were executed and another 500 were believed to be under arrest on a charge of sabotage.

Hong Kong. Two European police-officers and a Chinese detective were killed on board a police launch by two members of the crew and another accomplice. The launch was later boarded by fifteen men who took off all the arms and ammunition.

Mr Alexander and Mr Attlee on British policy in China and Hong Kong (*see Great Britain*).

6 May—The Nationalists announced that a Communist attempt to land on the mouth of the Whangpoo River, thirty miles west of Woosung, had been defeated. Both sides were reported to be preparing for battle near Kashing, the railway junction fifty miles south-west of Shanghai. The Communist radio claimed new advances in the drive towards the Canton-Hankow railway and the capture of a town seventy miles from Nanchang.

7 May—The Nationalists claimed that a Communist attack near Kunshan, thirty miles west of Shanghai, had failed with the loss of 1,000 killed.

8 May—A Peking broadcast claimed that Communist forces had crossed the Chientang River, south-west of Shanghai, and captured Siaoshan, a railway town about twenty miles to the south-east. They also claimed heavy Nationalist losses on the Poyang front.

The acting President, Gen. Li Tsung-jen, arrived at Canton from Kweilin.

9 May—The Government admitted that Communist troops had reached Kating, about seventeen miles north-west of Shanghai, and that Kashing, on the Shanghai-Hangchow railway was isolated. The Communists claimed further gains along the Chekiang-Kiangsi railway with 130 miles of line already in their hands.

In the battle for Tsingtao, the Shantung port, the Government claimed to have defeated the Communists at Tsimo and to have inflicted 8,000 casualties.



10 May—The Nationalists announced the repulse of Communist attacks in the Liuhu area and near Taichang and Kunshan, north-west of Shanghai.

After having captured Kashing, the Communists launched a heavy attack on Kashan, a railway city forty-two miles south-west of Shanghai.

The Nationalist General Fu Tso-yi, committed suicide in Peking, according to reports reaching Canton.

11 May—Dr Koo's request for U.S. support (*see United States*).

12 May—In a broadcast from Peking the Communists claimed the capture of Kashan and the surrender to them of forty-eight Nationalist vessels on the Yangtse and in coastal waters.

The Mayor of Shanghai told the populace that the Government were determined to defend the city whose defences were 'as strong as Stalingrad's'.

13 May—The Communists claimed in a broadcast to be in control of 250 miles of the Chekiang-Kiangsi railway track between Tsinien, thirty miles south-east of Nanchang, and Hangchow, and said that their forces had entered Fukien province and captured Chungan, twenty miles inside the border. According to a Government communiqué, the Communist forces in Fukien province were besieging Kienyang, about 115 miles north-west of Foochow. The Government also admitted the evacuation of Liuhu and said that strong Communist forces were attacking Aichong, nine miles to the west, and Sunkiang, twenty-two miles south-west of Shanghai.

Reports current in Canton said that the Koumintang had decided to ask Gen. Chiang Kai-shek to resume the 'leadership of the nation'.

14 May—The Communists continued their advance north-west of Shanghai. The Nationalists admitted that they had withdrawn into the 'main defence zone' on the railway west of the city. Government forces evacuated the Wuhan area.

The British Consul General at Shanghai issued a warning that all 'non essential Britons' should leave the city as soon as possible.

15 May—A state of emergency was declared in Canton and all non-essential citizens were advised to leave.

16 May—Hankow radio announced that Communist troops had entered the city. A Peking radio report claimed that Communist forces had closed in on three sides of Shanghai, capturing Nansing, twelve miles to the west, Sunkiang, a railway town to the south-west, and Fenghsien on the coast. The broadcast also claimed the capture of Hukow on the south bank of the Yangtze and said that in the past twenty days Communist troops had swept across five provinces to a depth of 300 miles, occupying 102 cities and towns and killing nearly 200,000 Nationalists. In the north the Communists claimed the capture of Sanyuan, twenty miles north of Sian, capital of Shensi province.

17 May—The Nationalists claimed an 'overwhelming victory' over Communist forces near Woosung, at the mouth of the Whangpoo River.

The Communists claimed in a Peking broadcast to have occupied Wuchang and Hengyang, near Hankow. They also claimed to be sweep-

CHINA (*continued*)

ing through Fukien province at the rate of fifty miles a day and that forward troops had taken Nanping on the Min River, eighty-seven miles upstream from Foochow. Other reports said that a strong Communist force had reached Ningtu, in Kiangsi province, 275 miles north-east of Canton.

18 May—The Communists' attempts to encircle Shanghai continued with their capture of Chwansha, about ten miles east of the city. They also claimed the capture of Kukiang, on the Yangtze, about 120 miles east of Hankow.

Government reinforcements were reported to have landed at Foochow.

CONFERENCE ON PALESTINE. 12 May—The Conciliation Commission announced that after a series of separate conversations with the delegations a document had been signed by the chief delegates of Israel, Egypt, Transjordan, the Lebanon, Syria, and the three members of the Commission, establishing a working basis for further discussion.

14 May—At a meeting between the Conciliation Commission and the Israeli delegation, Dr Eytan, head of the Israeli Foreign Office, requested the immediate withdrawal of all Arab forces from Palestine. The Palestine Arabs would be free to choose if they wanted to join another State, and after they had established a representative body Israel would discuss with it the question of frontiers.

16 May—Dr Eytan issued a statement denouncing the renewed war propaganda being fostered by the Arab States against Israel and which, he said, must influence Israel when considering the Arab refugee question. The Arab States needed peace much more urgently than Israel and it was in their own interest to try to reach a settlement with her.

17 May—It was learned that the Conciliation Commission was setting up a technical committee for Palestine to make local investigations on the points at issue, notably the frontier and refugee problems. It was also learned that the Egyptian and Transjordan delegates had agreed on their joint attitude to the frontier question.

COUNCIL OF EUROPE. 5 May—The Foreign Ministers of Denmark, France, the Irish Republic, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, and the United Kingdom, and the Belgian Ambassador in London, representing the Belgian Foreign Minister, signed the Statute of the Council of Europe and an agreement concerning the establishment of a preparatory commission to make the technical arrangements for the first meeting of the Council. The text of the Statute was as follows:

## CHAPTER I.—AIM OF THE COUNCIL

Art. 1.—(a) The aim of the Council of Europe is to achieve a greater unity between its members for the purpose of safeguarding and realizing the ideals and principles which are their common heritage and facilitating their economic and social progress; (b) This aim shall be pursued through the organs of the Council by discussion of questions of com-

mon concern and by agreements and common action in economic, social, cultural, scientific, legal, and administrative matters and in the maintenance and further realization of human rights and fundamental freedoms; (c) Participation in the Council of Europe shall not affect the collaboration of its members in the work of the United Nations and of other international organizations or unions to which they are parties; (d) Matters relating to national defence do not fall within the scope of the Council of Europe.

#### CHAPTER II.—MEMBERSHIP

Art. 2.—The Members of the Council of Europe are the Parties to this Statute.

Art. 3.—Every Member of the Council of Europe must accept the principles of the rule of law and of the enjoyment by all persons within its jurisdiction of human rights and fundamental freedoms, and collaborate sincerely and effectively in the realization of the aim of the Council as specified in Chapter I.

Art. 4.—Any European State, which is deemed to be able and willing to fulfil the provisions of Art. 3, may be invited to become a Member of the Council of Europe by the Committee of Ministers. Any State so invited shall become a Member on the deposit on its behalf with the Secretary-General of an instrument of accession to the present Statute.

Art. 5.—(a) In special circumstances, a European country, which is deemed to be able and willing to fulfil the provisions of Art. 3, may be invited by the Committee of Ministers to become an Associate Member of the Council of Europe. Any country so invited shall become an Associate Member on the deposit on its behalf with the Secretary-General of an instrument accepting the present Statute. An Associate Member shall be entitled to be represented in the Consultative Assembly only; (b) The expression "Member" in this Statute includes an Associate Member except when used in connection with representation on the Committee of Ministers.

Art. 6.—Before issuing invitations under Arts. 4 or 5 above, the Committee of Ministers shall determine the number of representatives on the Consultative Assembly to which the proposed Member shall be entitled and its proportionate financial contribution.

Art. 7.—Any Member of the Council of Europe may withdraw by formally notifying the Secretary-General of its intention to do so. Such withdrawal shall take effect at the end of the financial year in which it is notified, if the notification is given during the first nine months of that financial year. If the notification is given in the last three months of the financial year, it shall take effect at the end of the next financial year.

Art. 8.—Any Member of the Council of Europe, which has seriously violated Art. 3, may be suspended from its rights of representation and requested by the Committee of Ministers to withdraw under Art. 7. If such Member does not comply with this request, the Committee may decide that it has ceased to be a Member of the Council as from such date as the Committee may determine.

Art. 9.—The Committee of Ministers may suspend the right of

COUNCIL OF EUROPE (*continued*)

representation on the Committee and on the Consultative Assembly of a member, which has failed to fulfil its financial obligation, during such period as the obligation remains unfulfilled.

## CHAPTER III.—GENERAL

Art. 10.—The organs of the Council of Europe are: (i) the Committee of Ministers; (ii) the Consultative Assembly. Both these organs shall be served by the Secretariat of the Council of Europe.

Art. 11.—The seat of the Council of Europe is at Strasbourg.

Art. 12.—The official languages of the Council of Europe are English and French. The rules of procedure of the Committee of Ministers and of the Consultative Assembly shall determine in what circumstances and under what conditions other languages may be used.

## CHAPTER IV.—COMMITTEE OF MINISTERS

Art. 13.—The Committee of Ministers is the organ which acts on behalf of the Council of Europe in accordance with Arts. 15 and 16.

Art. 14.—Each Member shall be entitled to one representative on the Committee of Ministers and each representative shall be entitled to one vote. Representatives on the Committee shall be the Ministers for Foreign Affairs. When a Minister for Foreign Affairs is unable to be present, or in other circumstances where it may be desirable, an alternate may be nominated to act for him, who shall, whenever possible, be a member of his Government.

Art. 15.—(a) On the recommendation of the Consultative Assembly or on its own initiative, the Committee of Ministers shall consider the action required to further the aim of the Council of Europe, including the conclusion of conventions or agreements and the adoption by Governments of a common policy with regard to particular matters. Its conclusions shall be communicated to members by the Secretary-General; (b) In appropriate cases, the conclusions of the Committee may take the form of recommendations to the Governments of Members and the Committee may request the Governments of Members to inform it of the action taken by them with regard to such recommendations.

Art. 16.—The Committee of Ministers shall, subject to the provisions of Arts. 24, 28, 30, 32, 33, and 35, relating to the powers of the Consultative Assembly, decide with binding effect all matters relating to the internal organization and arrangements of the Council of Europe. For this purpose the Committee of Ministers shall adopt such financial and administrative regulations as may be necessary.

Art. 17.—The Committee of Ministers may set up advisory and technical committees or commissions for such specific purposes as it may deem desirable.

Art. 18.—The Committee of Ministers shall adopt its rules of procedure which shall determine among other things (i) the quorum; (ii) the method of appointment and term of office of its President; (iii) the procedure for the admission of items to its agenda, including the giving of notice of proposals for resolutions; and (iv) the notifications required for the nomination of alternates under Art. 14.

Art. 19.—At each session of the Consultative Assembly the Committee of Ministers shall furnish the Assembly with statements of its activities, accompanied by appropriate documentation.

Art. 20.—(a) Resolutions of the Committee of Ministers relating to the following important matters—namely: (i) recommendations under Art. 15 (b) [aims of Council]; (ii) questions under Art. 19 [reports of activities]; (iii) questions under Art. 21 (a) (i) and (b) [publicity]; (iv) questions under Art. 33 [meeting place of Assembly]; (v) recommendations for the amendment of Arts. 1 (d), 7, 15, 20, and 22 [organization]; and (vi) any other question which the Committee may, by a resolution passed under (d) below, decide should be subject to a unanimous vote on account of its importance, require the unanimous vote of the representatives casting a vote, and of a majority of the representatives entitled to sit on the Committee; (b) Questions arising under the rules of procedure or under the financial and administrative regulations may be decided by a simple majority vote of the representatives entitled to sit on the Committee; (c) Resolutions of the Committee under Arts. 4 and 5 require a two-thirds majority of all the representatives entitled to sit on the Committee; (d) All other resolutions of the Committee, including the adoption of the Budget, of rules of procedure and of financial and administrative regulations, recommendations for the amendment of articles of this Statute, other than those mentioned in paragraph (a) (v) above, and deciding in case of doubt which paragraph of this article applies, require a two-thirds majority of the representatives entitled to sit on the Committee.

Art. 21.—(a) Unless the Committee decides otherwise, meetings of the Committee of Ministers shall be held—(i) in private, and (ii) at the seat of the Council; (b) The Committee shall determine what information shall be published regarding the conclusions and discussions of a meeting held in private; (c) The Committee shall meet before and during the beginning of every session of the Consultative Assembly and at such other times as it may decide.

#### CHAPTER V.—THE CONSULTATIVE ASSEMBLY

Art. 22.—The Consultative Assembly is the deliberative organ of the Council of Europe. It shall debate matters within its competence under this Statute and present its conclusions, in the form of recommendations, to the Committee of Ministers.

Art. 23.—(a) The Consultative Assembly shall discuss, and may make recommendations upon, any matter within the aim and scope of the Council of Europe as defined in Chapter I, which (i) is referred to it by the Committee of Ministers with a request for its opinion, or (ii) has been approved by the Committee for inclusion in the Agenda of the Assembly on the proposal of the latter; (b) In taking decisions under (a) the Committee shall have regard to the work of other European inter-governmental organizations to which some or all of the Members of the Council are parties; (c) The President of the Assembly shall decide, in case of doubt, whether any question raised in the course of the session is within the Agenda of the Assembly approved under (a) above.

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COUNCIL OF EUROPE (*continued*)

Art. 24.—The Consultative Assembly may, with due regard to the provisions of Art. 38 (*d*) [expenditure], establish committees or commissions to consider and report to it on any matter which falls within its competence under Art. 23, to examine and prepare questions on its agenda and to advise on all matters of procedure.

Art. 25.—(*a*) The Consultative Assembly shall consist of representatives of each Member appointed in such a manner as the Government of that Member shall decide. Each representative must be a national of the Member whom he represents, but shall not at the same time be a member of the Committee of Ministers; (*b*) No representative shall be deprived of his position as such during a session of the Assembly without the agreement of the Assembly; (*c*) Each representative may have a substitute who may, in the absence of the representative, sit, speak, and vote in his place. The provisions of paragraph (*a*) above apply to the appointment of substitutes.

Art. 26.—The following States, on becoming Members, shall be entitled to the number of representatives given below: Belgium 6, Denmark 4, France 18, Irish Republic 4, Italy 18, Luxembourg 3, Netherlands 6, Norway 4, Sweden 6, United Kingdom 18.

Art. 27.—The conditions under which the Committee of Ministers collectively may be represented in the debates of the Consultative Assembly, or individual representatives on the Committee may address the Assembly, shall be determined by such rules of procedure on this subject as may be drawn up by the Committee after consultation with the Assembly.

Art. 28.—(*a*) The Consultative Assembly shall adopt its rules of procedure and shall elect from its members its President, who shall remain in office until the next ordinary session; (*b*) The President shall control the proceedings but shall not take part in the debate or vote. The substitute of the representative who is President may sit, speak, and vote in his place; (*c*) The rules of procedure shall determine *inter alia*: the quorum; the manner of the election and terms of office of the President and other officers; the manner in which the agenda shall be drawn up and be communicated to representatives; and the time and manner in which the names of representatives and their substitutes shall be notified.

Art. 29.—Subject to the provisions of Art. 30, all resolutions of the Consultative Assembly, including resolutions: (i) embodying recommendations to the Committee of Ministers; (ii) proposing to the Committee matters for discussion in the Assembly; (iii) establishing committees or commissions; (iv) determining the date of commencement of its sessions; (v) determining what majority is required for resolutions in cases not covered by (i) to (iv) above or determining cases of doubt as to what majority is required, shall require a two-thirds majority of the representatives casting a vote.

Art. 30.—On matters relating to its internal procedure, which includes the election of officers, the nomination of persons to serve on committees and commissions and the adoption of rules of procedure,



resolutions of the Consultative Assembly shall be carried by such majorities as the Assembly may determine in accordance with Art. 29 (v).

Art. 31.—Debates on proposals to be made to the Committee of Ministers that a matter should be placed on the Agenda of the Consultative Assembly shall be confined to an indication of the proposed subject-matter and the reasons for and against its inclusion in the Agenda.

Art. 32.—The Consultative Assembly shall meet in ordinary session once a year, the date and duration of which shall be determined by the Assembly so as to avoid so far as possible overlapping with parliamentary sessions of members and with sessions of the General Assembly of the United Nations. In no circumstances shall the duration of an ordinary session exceed one month unless both the Assembly and the Committee of Ministers concur.

Art. 33.—Ordinary sessions of the Consultative Assembly shall be held at the seat of the Council unless both the Assembly and the Committee of Ministers concur that it should be held elsewhere.

Art. 34.—The Committee of Ministers may convoke an extraordinary session of the Consultative Assembly at such time and place as the Committee, with the concurrence of the President of the Assembly shall decide.

Art. 35.—Unless the Consultative Assembly decides otherwise, its debates shall be conducted in public.

#### CHAPTER VI.—SECRETARIAT

Art. 36.—(a) The Secretariat shall consist of a Secretary-General, a Deputy Secretary-General and such other staff as may be required; (b) The Secretary-General and Deputy Secretary-General shall be appointed by the Consultative Assembly on the recommendation of the Committee of Ministers; (c) The remaining staff of the Secretariat shall be appointed by the Secretary-General, in accordance with the administrative regulations; (d) No member of the Secretariat shall hold any salaried office from any Government or be a member of the Consultative Assembly or of any national legislature or engage in any occupation incompatible with his duties; (e) Every member of the staff of the Secretariat shall make a solemn declaration affirming that his duty is to the Council of Europe and that he will perform his duties conscientiously, uninfluenced by any national considerations, and that he will not seek or receive instructions in connection with the performance of his duties from any Government or any authority external to the Council and will refrain from any action which might reflect on his position as an international official responsible only to the Council. In the case of the Secretary-General and the Deputy Secretary-General this declaration shall be made before the Committee, and in the case of all other members of the staff, before the Secretary-General; (f) Every Member shall respect the exclusively international character of the responsibilities of the Secretary-General and the staff of the Secretariat and not seek to influence them in the discharge of their responsibilities.

COUNCIL OF EUROPE (*continued*)

Art. 37.—(a) The Secretariat shall be located at the seat of the Council; (b) The Secretary-General is responsible to the Committee of Ministers for the work of the Secretariat. Amongst other things, he shall, subject to Art. 38 (d), provide such secretarial and other assistance as the Consultative Assembly may require.

## CHAPTER VII.—FINANCE

Art. 38.—(a) Each Member shall bear the expenses of its own representation in the Committee of Ministers and in the Consultative Assembly; (b) The expenses of the Secretariat and all other common expenses shall be shared between all Members in such proportions as shall be determined by the Committee on the basis of the population of Members. The contributions of an Associate Member shall be determined by the Committee; (c) In accordance with the financial regulations, the Budget of the Council shall be submitted annually by the Secretary-General for adoption by the Committee; (d) The Secretary-General shall refer to the Committee requests from the Assembly which involve expenditure exceeding the amount already allocated in the Budget for the Assembly and its activities.

Art. 39.—The Secretary-General shall each year notify the Government of each Member of the amount of its contribution and each Member shall pay to the Secretary-General the amount of its contribution, which shall be deemed to be due on the date of its notification, not later than six months after that date.

## CHAPTER VIII.—PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES

Art. 40.—(a) The Council of Europe, representatives of Members and the Secretariat shall enjoy in the territories of its Members such privileges and immunities as are reasonably necessary for the fulfilment of their functions. These immunities shall include immunity for all representatives in the Consultative Assembly from arrest and all legal proceedings in the territories of all Members, in respect of words spoken and votes cast in the debates of the Assembly or its committees or commissions; (b) The Members undertake as soon as possible to enter into an agreement for the purpose of fulfilling the provisions of paragraph (a) above. For this purpose the Committee of Ministers shall recommend to the Governments of Members the acceptance of an Agreement defining the privileges and immunities to be granted in the territories of all Members. In addition a special Agreement shall be concluded with the Government of the French Republic defining the privileges and immunities which the Council shall enjoy at its seat.

## CHAPTER IX.—AMENDMENTS

Art. 41.—(a) Proposals for the amendment of this Statute may be made in the Committee of Ministers or, in the conditions provided for in Art. 23, in the Consultative Assembly; (b) The Committee shall recommend and cause to be embodied in a Protocol those amendments which it considers to be desirable; (c) An amending Protocol shall come into force when it has been signed and ratified on behalf of two-thirds of the Members; (d) Notwithstanding the provisions of the preceding paragraphs of this Article, amendments to Arts. 23-35, 38 and 39 which

have been approved by the Committee and by the Assembly, shall come into force on the date of the certificate of the Secretary-General, transmitted to the Governments of Members, certifying that they have been so approved. This paragraph shall not operate until the conclusion of the second ordinary session of the Assembly.

#### CHAPTER X.—FINAL PROVISIONS

Art. 42.—(a) This Statute shall be ratified. Ratifications shall be deposited with the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland; (b) The present Statute shall come into force as soon as seven instruments of ratification have been deposited. The Government of the United Kingdom shall transmit to all signatory Governments a certificate declaring that the Statute has entered into force, and giving the names of the Members of the Council of Europe on that date; (c) Thereafter each other signatory shall become a party to this Statute as from the date of the deposit of its instrument of ratification.

A statement issued at the end of the conference said that it was hoped that the inaugural meeting of the Council in Strasbourg would take place in August. Requests for admission to the Council from the Greek and Turkish Governments had been noted and generally approved and would be dealt with by the Committee of Ministers as soon as it came into being. The Ministers had also held the first meeting of the preparatory commission and nominated M. Camille Paris as executive secretary.

11 May—The preparatory commission met in Paris attended by representatives of the ten countries.

COUNCIL OF FOREIGN MINISTERS. 6 May—*Austrian Treaty*. The second reading of the articles of the draft Austrian Treaty was completed. Mr Reber (U.S.A.) suggested that the meetings be suspended to allow the deputies to report to their Ministers, provided that a date was first decided on for a resumption. Mr Zarubin (U.S.S.R.) said he would prefer to discuss further the minor unagreed clauses.

10 May—*Austrian Treaty*. The deputies were informed by the Yugoslav Embassy of a statement by the Austrian Government opposing the formation of a political party by the Corinthian Slovenes. The deputies decided to adjourn until not later than 25 June.

14 May—*Germany*. Preparatory conversations for the four-Power Conference were begun in Paris between representatives of the three western Powers including Dr Jessup, U.S. Ambassador-at-Large, Sir Ivone Kirkpatrick, deputy Under-Secretary, Foreign Office, and M. Parodi, Secretary-General of the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

15 May—*Austrian Treaty*. It was learned that Dr Gruber, the Austrian Foreign Minister, had left Paris after a brief visit when he had had conversations with Dr Jessup in the presence of Mr Reber, M. Schuman, M. Parodi, and Sir Ivone Kirkpatrick.

18 May—*Germany*. Gen. Robertson, the British Military Governor in Germany, joined in the western Powers' preliminary conversations.

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CYPRUS. 8 May—Appointment of Governor (*see Great Britain*).

CZECHOSLOVAKIA. 11 May—Trade agreement (*see Netherlands*).

16 May—After a two months' secret trial, Gen. Kutelwasr (*see p. 71*) was condemned to life imprisonment. Three others, convicted with him, were sentenced to death, and nine to terms of imprisonment up to twenty-five years. One man was freed. An official statement said that Gen. Kutelwasr had been the military leader of an anti-State organization.

17 May—Recall of official at British Embassy and reciprocal measures in London (*see Great Britain*).

EGYPT. 5 May—Hand grenades were thrown at Hamed Gouda Bey, the President of the Chamber of Deputies, when he was driving in Cairo. Three arrests were made.

6 May—Pandit Nehru, Prime Minister of India, said in Cairo that he 'categorically opposed' any foreign interference in Indo-China. India was not contemplating joining any regional pact for the time being. Her tie with the Commonwealth was 'purely symbolic', and she would accept no outside help in her fight against Communism.

7 May—Nahas Pasha, the Wafdist leader, issued a manifesto calling on the Government to end martial law which was now being used as a political weapon. The Prime Minister, Abdul Hadi Pasha, said in a reply that martial law must continue until adequate legislation had been brought into operation against the terrorists, who were threatening the safety of the State, and who had already killed many patriots including the late Prime Minister and the chief of police. He also recalled that the Palestine question had not yet been settled and that the Egyptian army was still in its cease-fire positions.

12 May—Mr Liaquat Ali Khan, Prime Minister of Pakistan, emphasized in an interview with a British correspondent in Cairo the importance of the Middle East in the world situation. All the Middle East countries except Egypt were economically and financially weak and their prosperity should, both in their own interest and in that of world peace, be the concern of the great western Powers. It was perhaps not fully realized in the Middle East that Britain had long passed from a policy of exploitation and domination to that of development and co-operation. The removal of remaining suspicions could be hastened by a large gesture of the kind that only a great Power could make. Referring to the need for industrialization in Pakistan, he said that foreign capital was welcomed, and foreign enterprise had nothing to fear.

EIRE. 5 May—Mr MacBride, Minister of External Affairs, said in a statement that the inclusion in the Ireland Bill of the provisions guaranteeing the territorial integrity of the six counties was a 'usurpation of the fundamental right of the Irish people to determine their own affairs'.

10 May—Mr Costello, Prime Minister, moved a resolution in the Dail protesting against the British Government's Ireland Bill and

calling on Britain 'to end the present occupation of our six north-eastern counties'. After referring to the Government's past attempts to show their friendship for Britain, he said that they were unable to settle the issue by force of arms but that if Britain persisted in her attitude they would hit her 'in her prestige, in her pride, and in her pocket'. Mr de Valera seconded the motion which was adopted unanimously. It was decided to send copies of the resolution to the Parliaments of those countries with which the Republic had diplomatic relations.

11 May—The Senate unanimously adopted a resolution protesting against the Ireland Bill.

Mr Attlee on the Ireland Bill (*see Great Britain*).

13 May—An anti-partition demonstration was held in Dublin attended by Ministers, members of Parliament, political parties, and Trade Unions. Battalions of the I.R.A. and the Citizen Army paraded. Speeches were made by Mr Costello, Mr de Valera, and Mr MacBride.

18 May—The relaxation of export controls was announced.

EUROPEAN MOVEMENT. 9 May—*Council of Europe*. The executive committee of the European movement ended a three-day meeting in Paris after drawing up a number of recommendations to be sent to the ten nations of the Council of Europe.

FRANCE. 5 May—Agreement on lifting of Berlin blockade and meeting of Council of Foreign Ministers (*see United States*).

Mr Morrison, Lord President of the Council, arrived in Paris for a short visit.

7 May—President Auriol, speaking at Tours on the progress of European Union, said that 'the majority of problems have no longer a purely national solution. There will be neither peace nor prosperity . . . if national sovereignties are not associated in a common international law guaranteed by a common force and common institutions.'

11 May—*Germany*. The Council of Ministers approved 'with some reserves' the draft Constitution voted at Bonn.

16 May—*Germany*. M. Schuman reaffirmed in a speech at Strasbourg that the German problem could only be solved in the framework of European unity. It would be a mistake to wish to keep Germany under constraint though there must be a transition period before she could be given her place in the common European task. Meanwhile there was no question of abandoning military occupation of Germany.

17 May—*Germany*. Three ministers from Württemberg-Hohenzollern arrived in Paris on the invitation of M. Schuman.

GERMANY. 5 May—Agreement on lifting of blockade and meeting of Council of Foreign Ministers (*see United States*). Temporary continuation of air-lift (*see Great Britain*). A statement issued by the Communist Party at Frankfurt urged that work on the west German Constitution should cease since it might 'torpedo' the possible success of the four-Power discussions.

British statement on war-crimes trials (*see Great Britain*).

GERMANY (*continued*)

*West German Constitution.* Gen. Robertson, British Military Governor, stated in Berlin that work on the Constitution must proceed and be translated into action as soon as possible. The inclusion of eastern Germany in a united German administration could occur only on the fundamentals laid down at Bonn.

6 May—*West German Constitution.* The Military Governors handed the Parliamentary Council a Note defining the police powers of the Federal Government. The Federal police were to have no control over the local police.

*West German Constitution.* Professor Schmid, the Social-Democratic leader at Bonn, stated that they had 'consciously overstepped the limit of the London recommendation in including Berlin as a member state' in order to state their claim for wider democratic unity.

7 May—Mr Bevin, British Foreign Secretary, arrived in Berlin for a short visit.

Long-term occupation policy reaffirmed (*see United States*).

8 May—Mr Bevin had discussions in Berlin with the British and U.S. Military Governors and the French deputy Military Governor. In a speech to the members of the *Magistrat* he pledged himself on behalf of Britain not to agree to anything at the forthcoming four-Power Conference which would prevent the Germans from establishing a 'free and unfettered democratic Government'. He also said that one of his main aims as Foreign Secretary was to wipe out the 'age-long feud between France and Germany' and to end the feeling of mistrust in his own country. But there was a lot to be done in Germany before the allied troops could be withdrawn. He later told a press conference that any agreement reached at the Paris conference would be the basis of a final peace settlement. A plan must be devised to bring together the peoples of Europe. 'The real key to peace is to get Europe settled for a couple of hundred years.' This was not beyond the bounds of possibility. Replying to a question he said that he had always been in favour of having the eastern frontier examined by a commission and then settled at the peace conference.

The 'People's Council' again invited the Parliamentary Council at Bonn to send delegates to a conference at Brunswick to discuss the unity of Germany.

*West German Constitution.* The basic law was adopted by the full assembly of the Parliamentary Council by 53 votes to 12 (6 Bavarian Christian Socialists, 2 Communists, 2 Centre Party, and 2 German Party). A speech by Professor Schmid, the Social Democrat leader, emphasized the provisional nature of the basic law and expressed the hope that out of it would emerge a free Constitution for the whole country.

9 May—Mr Bevin arrived in the British Zone and met Dr Schumacher, chairman of the Social Democratic Party, Dr Adenauer, chairman of the Christian Democrat Union and President of the Parliamentary Council at Bonn, and Dr Arnold, Prime Minister of North Rhine-Westphalia.

*West-German Constitution.* The Parliamentary Council approved a



revised text in the electoral law increasing the restrictions on the eligibility of ex-Nazis to be members of Parliament.

Mr Isaacs, the British Minister of Labour, arrived in Berlin.

*Berlin.* Gen. Chuikov, Soviet Military Governor, and Gen. Lukyantchenko issued a joint directive giving instructions for the lifting of the restrictions between Berlin and the western Zones and between the eastern and western Zones on 12 May. Paragraph 7 stated that 'until the currency problem in Berlin is solved' all currency, including eastern and western marks and foreign currency, should be subject to existing regulations at the border.

10 May—*Berlin.* It was learned that the western Commandants had sent orders to the Lord Mayor, directing that all counter-restrictions imposed by the western allies should be lifted on 12 May.

The Soviet authorities stated that western-licensed newspapers might be distributed and sold in the Soviet Sector and Zone after 12 May provided that a reciprocal arrangement was made for the sale of Soviet-licensed newspapers in the western Sectors and Zones.

Dr Suhr, chairman of the western City Assembly stated that there would be no negotiations with the eastern City authorities in spite of the lifting of the blockade. Berlin could only be reunited if this illegal body resigned.

*West German Constitution.* At its final session the Parliamentary Council passed the electoral law providing for an Assembly of 400 representatives, half to be elected by majority and half to be selected from party lists in the proportion of the elected members. It was also agreed that Bonn should be the seat of Government of the Federal Republic. It was further proposed that until the holding of elections the three western Zones should be administered, under allied supervision, by an interim executive committee of 18 members.

The Parliament of North Rhine-Westphalia approved a resolution recommending the withdrawal from Germany of all forces of occupation.

11 May—Air-lift figures (*see Great Britain*).

*Berlin.* The U.S. Military Government agreed to lift the ban on the import of Soviet-licensed publications into their Sector and Zone. The British Authorities said they would lift the ban if the Russians agreed to do away with the monopoly distributing companies in their Zone which, they pointed out, would impede the free circulation of western-licensed newspapers.

Dr Adenauer described to a press conference the invitation of the east German politicians to attend a conference at Brunswick as 'letters not received'.

Qualified approval of west German Constitution (*see France*).

Gen. Huebner's appointment (*see United States*).

12 May—*Berlin.* Communications with the west were resumed. At a special meeting of the City Assembly attended by the British and U.S. Military Governors, the deputy French Military Governor and representatives of the Bonn Parliamentary Council, including Dr Adenauer and Professor Schmid, tribute was paid to the memory of the British and

GERMANY (*continued*)

American airmen and the German workers who had lost their lives in the air-lift, and the Berliners were congratulated on their fortitude in enduring the blockade. Professor Schmid voiced the general feeling when he declared that Berlin's fight for freedom was a victory for the western world and appealed for the unity of Germany. Herr Kaiser, the Christian Democratic leader, went further and called for the return to Germany of 'Breslau, Stettin, and the other cities of the eastern provinces now under Polish administration'. A demonstration was also held in the Soviet Sector.

*West German Constitution.* The basic law was finally approved by the three Military Governors with certain reservations, one of which suspended for the time being the clause declaring Berlin a member State of the Federal Republic.

*Soviet Zone.* Eight Germans and eleven Russians were killed when an ammunition train blew up near Magdeburg.

13 May—*Berlin.* Economic representatives of the four Powers met to discuss 'technical questions' concerned with the resumption of inter-zonal trade.

*Western Germany.* Following the refusal of the three Military Governors to allow the establishment of an interim Government as proposed by the Parliamentary Council, the Premiers of the eleven *Länder* substituted for it three working committees composed of themselves.

Mr Arthur Henderson, the British Air Minister, arrived in the British Zone to tour the air-lift stations.

14 May—*Berlin.* The economic representatives of the four Powers held a further meeting.

The three western Commandants signed a charter, to come into immediate effect, setting out the principles governing the relationship between the *Kommandatura* and the City authorities, on the lines of the Occupation Statute in the western Zones. Full legislative, executive, and juridical powers were granted to the municipal authorities except in certain fields including: (1) relations with authorities abroad; (2) security and prestige of the Allied Forces; (3) foreign trade and exchange control; (4) police supervision; (5) control of banking, currency, and credit policy. The occupying Powers reserved the right to resume full authority in case of emergency. The Commandants also agreed to eliminate the veto from *Kommandatura* meetings whose decisions would, in future, be by majority voting. Gen. Bourne, the British Commandant, told a press conference that acceptance of the Statute 'would have to be the basis for a return of the Russians to the *Kommandatura*'.

15 May—*People's Congress.* Elections on a single-list system for the third People's Congress began in the Soviet Sector and Zone.

Gen. Clay left Germany and was succeeded by Gen. Huebner.

Mr Henderson visited Berlin and reaffirmed the determination of the western Powers to make use of all available means of supply, including the air-lift, until the situation had returned to normal.

16 May—M. Schuman's speech (*see France*).

*Berlin.* Discussions began at the headquarters of the Economic

Commission in the Soviet Sector between German representatives from the eastern and western Zones on the resumption of interzonal trade.

*People's Congress.* Provisional results announced after voting ended were as follows: out of a 95.2 per cent poll, 7,943,949 were cast in favour of the Congress, 4,080,272 against, and spoiled papers totalled 863,013.

*Dismantling.* Amendments to the dismantling list were issued in Düsseldorf providing for the preservation of several important works in the Ruhr.

17 May—*Dismantling.* In an attempt to save six synthetic oil plants due for dismantling under the Washington agreement, a report was issued by Herr Trost, chairman of the coal management at Essen, emphasizing that their closure would 'jeopardize the future of coal-mining' in Germany.

*Berlin.* It was announced that the German experts had reached agreement on the resumption of interzonal trade.

Herr Ulbricht, a member of the political bureau of the Socialist Unity Party, speaking to party officials on the need to widen the National Front, said that former membership of the Nazi Party should not be counted against any one fighting for German unity.

Ministers from French Zone in Paris (*see France*).

18 May—*West German Constitution.* The basic law was ratified by four *Länder*—North Würtemberg-Baden, Rhineland-Palatinate, South Baden, and Hamburg.

*Berlin.* A number of goods' lorries from the western Zones were held up by the Soviet authorities at Marienborn, opposite Helmstedt, because their papers were not stamped by the German Economic Commission—a rule which was not in force before 1 March 1948. The matter was brought up by the economic advisers of the western Military Governors at a quadripartite meeting and the Soviet representative agreed to examine it as a question of urgency. Other transport difficulties which were reported included the Russian claim, based on a 1945 agreement, that trains from the west must be limited to sixteen a day and that they must be operated beyond Helmstedt by locomotives from the eastern Zone.

Nomination of U.S. High Commissioner (*see United States*).

GREAT BRITAIN. 5 May—Agreement on lifting of Berlin blockade and meeting of Council of Foreign Ministers (*see United States*). Mr Bevin informed the House of the agreement and said that the air-lift would continue 'until the situation has been finally cleared up'.

Mr Creech Jones on Tanganyika, and white settlement in British Africa (*see British East Africa*).

*Council of Europe.* Mr Morrison, Lord President of the Council, told Parliament in answer to a question that the British representation on the Consultative Assembly would be composed of members of one or other House of Parliament and would include members of the Opposition. No one associated with anti-democratic organizations or opposed to the objects of Western Union would be represented.

GREAT BRITAIN (*continued*)

Mr Morrison later left for Paris.

*War Crimes.* Lord Henderson, Under-Secretary, Foreign Office, told the Lords that the Government had decided in the light of medical evidence that proceedings should be dropped against Field-Marshal von Rundstedt and Gen. Strauss and that they should be released. Field-Marshal von Manstein would however be tried. Apart from this trial and those already in progress no further war-crimes trials would be held in the British Zone. Except in exceptional cases no further applications for extradition for war-crimes would be accepted after 1 September 1948 and none for the extradition of traitors and collaborators after 1 March 1949. German courts were now responsible for trying cases of crimes against humanity involving either German, allied, or United Nations individuals. The Lord Chancellor said, in reply to protests about the trial of von Manstein, that the latter had been accused of major crimes in the Polish trials which had been fairly conducted.

*China.* Mr Alexander, Minister of Defence, replying to Opposition criticism of Government policy in China said that a warship had been kept at Nanking in order to maintain a steady influence on both Europeans and Chinese, to provide the Embassy with wireless communications and supplies, and to afford refuge to the British community if the need arose. The Chinese Government had been told in advance of any movement of ships on the river ever since they had issued their warning. It was the view of those on the spot that the attack on the *Amethyst* had not been planned but that the firing had started by accident and then spread. On the question of air cover he reiterated that the *Amethyst* was making a normal peace-time passage and that the provision of fighter aircraft would have been regarded as provocation. The local commander had decided that the best chance of rescuing the *Amethyst* was to take quick and peaceful measures since all the evidence went to show that the incident had been due to accident or misunderstanding. Air support for the *London* and *Black Swan* would have been a clear act of war. He, Mr Alexander, supported the decisions taken. Plans had been made for the protection of British nationals in Shanghai and for their evacuation if necessary. The Government were not aware of any molestation of British subjects in areas overrun by the Communists, who appeared to maintain effective law and order in the areas overtaken. For the present, foreign diplomatic missions were remaining at Nanking and consular officers were staying at their posts. A branch office of the Embassy had been established at Canton and was in contact there with elements of the Nationalist Government.

The Government had a direct responsibility for Hong Kong and steps were being taken to deal with any disturbances of the peace there. The police force had been considerably strengthened and recruitment for the defence force was under way, though so far with disappointing results. In addition 'substantial reinforcements' were being sent to the garrison including elements of all arms.

Replying to the debate Mr Attlee, Prime Minister, took full responsi-

bility for the measures taken on the Yangtze. He also said that the question of relations with the Chinese Communists would depend on their Government's future actions.

Mr Beasley, the High Commissioner for Australia, left London for consultations in Australia.

6 May—*South-West Africa*. Mr Noel-Baker, Secretary of State for Commonwealth Relations, told the Commons that the Government considered that under the U.N. Charter there was no obligation on South Africa to place the mandated territory under trusteeship. There was no legal doubt on the matter, and therefore it would not be right to refer it to the International Court of Justice.

Mr Howe, Canadian Minister of Trade and Commerce, expressed satisfaction with the results of his trade talks in London, and said that Canada's future policy would be to buy more from Britain.

Mr Bevin received Mr Sadak, the Turkish Foreign Minister, Dr Lange, the Norwegian Foreign Minister, and Count Sforza, the Italian Foreign Minister.

Mr Creech Jones, Secretary of State for the Colonies, arrived in London from Kenya.

7 May—Mr Bevin in Berlin (*see Germany*).

Mr Howe left London for home.

8 May—The Colonial Office announced the appointment of Sir Andrew Wright as Governor of Cyprus in succession to Lord Winster.

9 May—*Anglo-Canadian Trade*. Mr Noel-Baker told the Commons that the discussions with Mr Howe had helped to remove misunderstandings about the country's trade policy with North America. The value of imports from Canada for the twelve months ending in June was estimated at \$700 million. It had been agreed that further purchases should be made, including flour, fruit, and timber, and the Government hoped that these would help to mitigate the difficulties caused to Canada by the dollar shortage. Mr Howe's statement (*see Canada*).

10 May—Mr Harold Wilson, President of the Board of Trade, left for a visit to Canada.

Mr Bevin returned from Germany.

*Strikes*. A miners' strike on the question of concessionary coal, which began a week previously at Burnley, spread to all the pits in the Lancashire coalfield involving about 52,000 men.

*Ceylon*. The War Office announced that Brigadier the Earl of Caithness had been seconded to the Ceylon Army as Military Adviser to the Ceylon Government.

Dail's protest against Ireland Bill (*see Eire*).

11 May—*Ireland Bill*. Mr Attlee told the Commons that he had received representations from the Government of Eire about the clause in the Bill dealing with the constitutional position of Northern Ireland. The insertion of this clause had been rendered necessary by Eire's decision to leave the Commonwealth, and while the Government recognized Eire's right to make this decision they equally recognized the right of Northern Ireland to decide through her Parliament whether

GREAT BRITAIN (*continued*)

to stay in or leave the Commonwealth. When the Government of Eire had made this decision he had pointed out to them that it would inevitably make more difficult the question of the unification of all Ireland. It was therefore not the British Government but the Government of Eire which had 'tightened the ligature fastened round the body of Ireland'. Dealing with clause 3, he said that citizens of Eire were not subject to military service until they had been in Britain for at least two years, and then were not liable if they were staying for a course of education or temporarily. Those who were liable but unwilling to serve were given the chance of returning to Eire instead. He refuted the suggestion that the Republic of Ireland, although outside the Commonwealth, was obtaining all the advantages of membership. Mr Eden, for the Opposition, gave the Bill the 'broad support' of his party.

*Tanganyika.* A reply to the November report of the U.N. mission to Tanganyika, which was issued by the Colonial Office, commented on the brief duration of the visit on which the report had been based, and regretted that the mission should have 'quoted inaccurate and demonstrably false statements'. Though the Government agreed in principle with many of the major recommendations they disagreed 'as to the methods by which, and the speed with which it is practicable to advance towards these objectives.'

Lord Listowel, Minister of State for the Colonies, reaffirmed to the Lords that there would be no weakening of the Government's position regarding administrative responsibility in Tanganyika. The Government hoped 'in the not distant future' to increase African membership of the legislative council.

*Air-lift.* Mr Henderson, Secretary of State for Air, stated that since the air-lift began on 28 June last, British aircraft had made 63,612 flights to Berlin carrying 369,347 tons of supplies and U.S. aircraft had made 131,918 flights carrying 1,214,339 tons.

*Atlantic Pact.* A White Paper (Cmd. 7692) was issued on the Pact.

*Burma.* Mr Bevin told the Commons in answer to a question that in the course of the recent meeting of Commonwealth Prime Ministers, the Prime Ministers of Britain, India, Pakistan, and Ceylon had met and agreed to respond to the Burmese Prime Minister's request for assistance in restoring law and order in Burma. The necessary machinery had been set up to implement this decision.

*Spain.* Mr Bevin told Parliament in answer to a question that he still stood where he did in 1946 and that he was sorry that the position had been interrupted in 1947 by taking the Ambassador away. Britain had refrained from voting on the U.N. Political Committee's resolution on the subject on 7 May because, while seeing the practical advantages of having an Ambassador in Madrid they did not attach great importance to the question and were content to abide by the decision of the United Nations as a whole.

*12 May—Atlantic Pact.* A motion calling for approval of the Treaty was presented to the Commons by Mr Bevin, who recalled the aggressive trend of Soviet foreign policy which had made necessary 'a greater



cohesion and understanding among the peace-loving peoples'. This closer link among the Atlantic nations had already been effective in leading the U.S.S.R. to alter its tactics towards Germany. The real purpose of the pact was a deterrent, to make action appear too risky to a would-be aggressor. Had such a pact existed earlier the two last wars might have been averted. The treaty was in full conformity with the U.N. Charter. It was not a regional agreement under article 53 but 'an arrangement between certain States for effective self-defence' as foreseen by article 51 which 'covers the position before the Security Council has taken any action'. Nor was it incompatible with the Anglo-Soviet alliance. If both treaties could be operated correctly 'a state of universal peace might be produced'. He reaffirmed the Government's 'special interest in the independence and integrity of Greece and Turkey and in the area from Greece to Persia'. Mr Churchill after pledging the Opposition's continued support for the pact, recalled that the prime agent was the U.S.A. He also said that the absence of Spain was 'a serious gap in the strategic arrangements for Western Europe'. Mr Noel-Baker said in answer to a question that Gibraltar and Malta would be included in the pact. The motion was carried by 333 votes to 6.

*Spain.* It was learned that the Anglo-Spanish trade and payments agreement, due to expire on 7 April last, had been extended until 30 January 1950.

*13 May—Israel.* The Foreign Office announced that the Government and the Government of Israel had decided to raise the status of their respective representatives to Ministers and that of their offices to Legations.

*Malaya.* Mr Creech Jones, Secretary of State for the Colonies, said in a written Parliamentary reply that the Government had decided to offer Malaya a free grant of £20 million in place of the £10 million offered in April 1948, and an interest-free loan of up to 160 million Straits dollars—about £18,500,000.

*14 May—Strikes.* A special conference of the Miners' Union of the Lancashire area called off the strike pending negotiations.

*15 May—Strikes.* The miners returned to work.

*16 May—*Revised figures for the Borough Council elections (*see p. 245*) issued by the Conservative Central Office showed that the Conservatives had gained 873 seats and lost 43, and that Labour had gained 111 and lost 842.

Gen. Robertson, British Military Governor in Germany, arrived in London for discussions with Mr Bevin.

*17 May—Ireland Bill.* Mr Ede, Secretary of State for Home Affairs, told the Commons that the Bill was a very great act of generosity towards Irishmen. If at any time the Republic desired to re-enter the Commonwealth she would find a warm welcome and no questions would be asked about the past.

*Czechoslovakia.* The Foreign Office said in a statement that on 28 March the Czechoslovak authorities had requested the recall of Mr Knott, a junior official in the Prague Embassy whom they accused of espionage. The Embassy had denied the truth of these charges but after

GREAT BRITAIN (*continued*)

a further request Mr Knott had been withdrawn. The Czechoslovak Ambassador had been asked to recall one of his officials in London.

Sir Stafford Cripps returned from Italy.

18 May—Mr MacDonald, Commissioner-General for South-East Asia, arrived in London 'to discuss affairs in the Far East'.

The Colonial Development and Welfare Bill which was presented to Parliament proposed that the annual sum available for development, welfare, and research schemes should be increased from £17,500,000 to £20 million.

*Atlantic Pact.* The House of Lords approved the Treaty.

Mr Zilliacus and Mr Solley were expelled from the Labour Party because of their persistent opposition to Government policy. Four Parliamentary Private Secretaries were asked to resign their posts because they had voted against the Government on the Ireland Bill.

GREECE. 12 May—British pledge re-affirmed (*see Great Britain*).

13 May—The General Staff announced that Communist forces had launched an attack on Mount Vitsi in western Macedonia.

HUNGARY. 6 May—The bench of bishops sent a letter to the election committee of the Independence front declaring that the faithful should exercise their right to vote at the forthcoming elections and supporting all efforts to raise the living standards of the people and the welfare of the country. Full liberty of the Church formed an essential part of the country's reconstruction.

8 May—Mr Rakosi, Vice-Premier, said in a speech in Transdanubia that the bishops' declaration was welcomed 'as the first step towards a settlement'.

9 May—Frontier incident (*see Yugoslavia*).

15 May—General elections were held on a single-list system. 5,730,519 votes were cast out of a total electorate of 6,053,972. Of these 5,478,515 were for the Independence Front, 165,283 against and 86,721 invalid.

INDIA. 5 May—The Government decided to protest to Britain about the recent execution in Malaya of Mr Ganapathy, the Indian former President of the Pan-Malayan Federation of Trade Unions, who had been sentenced to death for carrying arms.

6 May—Statement by Pandit Nehru in Cairo (*see Egypt*).

8 May—Several Communists and seven members of the Bombay police were injured when the police attempted to stop a banned procession. Forty-two demonstrators were arrested.

9 May—Military mission in Ottawa (*see Canada*).

10 May—*Commonwealth*. Pandit Nehru, Prime Minister, said in a broadcast in reply to criticism that the decision to remain in the Commonwealth had enhanced the country's prestige. No commitments of any kind limiting India's sovereignty or internal or external policy had been made, and he thought it was a good augury that the old conflict

with Britain had been settled in this friendly way. Although they disapproved of much that was being done in various parts of the Commonwealth, these were matters they should deal with as a sovereign nation.

11 *May—Commonwealth.* Pandit Nehru told a press conference that rights and privileges resulting from the association with the Commonwealth did not include common citizenship. The most important advantage that India would gain by remaining a member was the opportunity it gave her of influencing decisions in favour of peace.

Mr Bevin on joint assistance to Burma (*see Great Britain*).

12 *May—Warning by Rangoon Embassy to Burmese rebels (see Burma).*

16 *May—Commonwealth.* Pandit Nehru called on Parliament to ratify the London agreement which, he said, brought 'a touch of healing in our relations with certain other countries', and which would be beneficial both to themselves and to the world. The problem, which he had approached in a spirit of generosity, could not have been solved by narrow-minded nationalists or by people who lacked faith in India.

The Bombay police arrested Manek Gandhi, General Secretary of the All-India Trade Union Congress, under the Public Security Act.

17 *May—Commonwealth.* After another speech by Pandit Nehru supporting the London agreement, it was approved by Parliament against only one dissenting vote.

INDO-CHINA. 8 *May*—It was learned that the Viet-Minh radio had declared that, on the orders of Ho Chi-minh, a warrant had been issued for the arrest of the ex-Emperor Bao Dai on charges of high treason.

13 *May*—About 200 supporters of Ho Chi-minh mined the railway line about twelve miles from Saigon and attacked the occupants of a train, killing eleven.

INDONESIA. 7 *May*—The preliminary conference at Batavia ended in agreement on the return of the Republican Government to Jogjakarta, the cessation of guerrilla warfare, and the holding of a round-table conference at The Hague. The Republican Government as a whole gave no commitments but Dr Soekarno, the Republican President, and Dr Hatta, the Prime Minister, gave assurances that they would insist, after their return to Jogjakarta, on the fulfilment of the agreed policy.

10 *May*—Resignation of Dr Beel (*see Netherlands*).

18 *May*—Thousands of people were reported to be leaving Jogjakarta before the return of the Republican Government.

INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST CONFERENCE. 14 *May*—Representatives of the west European Socialist parties met at Baarn, near Amsterdam.

15 *May*—The conference studied an economic programme for western Europe prepared by a committee of experts, and referred it back to them for further examination. The programme included:—(1) public ownership under an international authority of western Europe's basic

INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST CONFERENCE (*continued*)

industries, including transport, coal, mining, and iron and steel. (2) international bulk buying of food and raw materials; (3) co-ordinated selling of the products of basic industries; (4) the setting up of a European investment bank to supervise investments in Europe and dependent territories; (5) the creation of a European monetary fund as a first step towards a common European currency.

16 May—*Council of Europe*. Discussion on this subject revealed many differences of opinion, the British Labour Party opposing the French and Dutch proposals that the Assembly should be granted powers of decision as a Federal Parliament and also opposing proposals that the Socialist Parties in the Assembly should act together on party lines. A compromise resolution was adopted which called on all Socialist parties to try to make a success of the Council of Europe and hoped that its sphere of influence would be gradually extended and that it would work in close contact with the O.E.E.C. It also declared that Socialist representatives on the Council would 'be guided in their actions by the legitimate interests of the working masses' and that 'items on the agenda of the Assembly should be examined by the whole body of Socialist delegates in the light of the common interests of the countries they represent'.

Other resolutions passed before the Conference ended included: *Italy*, expulsion of the Nenni Socialist Party from membership of Comisco; *Spain*, the sending of a telegram to the United Nations regretting proposals to resume diplomatic relations with the Franco Government. *Greece*, support for the Greek Socialist Party, E.L.D.

ITALY. 6 May—Mr Liaquat Ali Khan, Prime Minister of Pakistan, arrived in Rome at the invitation of the Government.

Count Sforza received by Mr Bevin (*see Great Britain*).

8 May—*Ex-Italian Colonies*. Count Sforza, Foreign Minister, returned from London to Rome. It was learned that he had reached provisional agreement with Mr Bevin on a new plan for the former colonies, under which Tripolitania would return to Italian trusteeship in 1951 until when it would continue under British administration assisted by an advisory council consisting of the U.S.A., Britain, France, Italy, and Egypt; Cyrenaica would remain under British and Fezzan under French trusteeship; the whole of Libya should become independent after ten years subject to the approval at that time of the General Assembly; Italian Somaliland would be placed under Italian trusteeship; Eritrea would go to Ethiopia apart from the western province, which would be incorporated in the Sudan, while Ethiopia would guarantee special rights for the Italian population of Asmara and Massawa. Count Sforza told a press conference that he was satisfied with the agreement, which 'saves our interests in Tripolitania . . . and saves our honour in Eritrea'.

11 May—*P.S.I. Congress*. The twenty-eighth annual Congress of the Socialist (Nenni) Party opened in Florence with fraternal greetings from Signor Togliatti, the Communist leader.

13 May—The Council of Ministers ordered a temporary ban on all public meetings of the neo-Fascist M.S.I.

15 May—*P.S.I. Congress*. After five days of discussions which had revealed many dissensions within the Party, and marked by a speech by Signor Romito who condemned the unity of action pact with the Communists while declaring his intention of remaining in the P.S.I., the Congress ended with a vote in favour of continued collaboration with the Communists. A telegram received from the International Socialist Conference at Baarn invited them to assert their independence from the Communists and support the free nations allied in the Atlantic Pact.

16 May—*Ex-Italian Colonies*. A Foreign Office spokesman stated that if the U.N. General Assembly agreed to grant Italy trusteeship over Tripolitania the Government would discharge their duties in the spirit and letter of the recommendations and would endeavour, in close collaboration with the local populations, to lead the territory to a state of political, administrative, economic, and solid maturity whereby it might attain independence in 1959. Such a programme coincided with the Government's conviction that a united and independent State of Libya was in the interests of Italy.

Expulsion of Nenni Socialist Party from Comisco (*see International Socialist Conference*).

17 May—*Strikes*. Police intervened in a clash at Molinella, near Bologna, between two groups of labourers, one of which refused to join in a strike called by the local Communists. One woman was killed and twenty-three people injured.

18 May—*Strikes*. About 400,000 farm labourers in the Po valley and in the Rome district came out on strike for better working conditions.

*Ex-Italian Colonies*. Count Sforza told the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Chamber that all further negotiations must start from his recent agreement with Mr Bevin which the Government regarded as pledging the policy of Britain, the U.S.A., and France towards the colonies.

JAPAN. 6 May—Statement on U.S. policy (*see United States*).

12 May—Statement on ending of reparations (*see United States*).

LIBYA. 9 May—Arabs in Tripoli demonstrated against the Anglo-Italian plan for Italian trusteeship over Tripolitania.

11 May—Further prolonged Arab demonstrations occurred in Tripoli.

14 May—A state of emergency was proclaimed in Tripoli after the calling of an Arab general strike and further demonstrations.

15 May—Twenty-six Arabs and two policemen were injured in rioting in Tripoli. The 'National Congress'—a political organization in Tripoli claiming to represent all Tripolitania—told the civil administrator that civil disobedience had been proclaimed.

17 May—The general strike continued and all public services were at a standstill. Thousands of demonstrators paraded in Tripoli carrying a portrait of Stalin and cheering for Libya and Russia.

18 May—A 'victory' procession was held in Tripoli to celebrate the

LIBYA (*continued*)

rejection by the United Nations of the Bevin-Sforza plan. The order for civil disobedience was cancelled and it was decided to end the strikes.

MALAYA. 5 May—Indian protest (*see India*).

7 May—Two notorious bandit leaders were killed by the police, one near Tapah, in Perak, the other in the Segamat area of Johore. Bandits killed an auxiliary policeman at Bentong, in Pahang.

8 May—The R.A.F. attacked bandit camps in the Kuala Langat area of Selangor and the Kuala Krau district of north Perak. An armed bandit was shot by a military patrol in the Mentakab area of Pahang. Two special constables were killed during a bandit attack on a rubber estate at Malacca.

9 May—The R.A.F. attacked a bandit area in the Sitiawan district. One bandit was captured and seven persons detained by police near Kuala Lumpur. In the Kuala Lipis district of Pahang bandits who ambushed a bus killed the driver and wounded two passengers.

13 May—British grant and loan (*see Great Britain*).

14 May—A captured document, written in Chinese, and containing a series of resolutions passed at a meeting of a State Communist committee, which was released by the Federation authorities, showed a serious degree of demoralization among the bandits. It attributed the failure of the rising mainly to 'our poor military strength and to the fact that such strength is too widely dispersed'.

15 May—Mr Malcolm MacDonald, Commissioner-General for South-East Asia, said in a broadcast that if the Communist rulers in China were not ready to co-operate in the family of nations the Far Eastern democracies, like the Western, would have to stand together to protect their citizens' rights.

NETHERLANDS. 7 May—Agreement at Batavia (*see Indonesia*).

10 May—*Indonesia*. It was learned that Dr Beel, High Commissioner for Indonesia, had asked to be relieved of his post.

11 May—It was learned that a trade agreement for one year had been signed with Czechoslovakia involving mainly the exchange of raw materials for Czech processed goods.

12 May—*Indonesia*. Dr van Maarseveen said in a statement to the Second Chamber that the Government accepted responsibility for the policy laid down in the Batavia agreement, which was an attempt to break mutual distrust. If the conditions agreed on were not fulfilled by the Republican Government the agreement would lapse.

PAKISTAN. 6 May—Prime Minister in Rome (*see Italy*).

11 May—Mr Bevin on joint assistance to Burma (*see Great Britain*).

12 May—Prime Minister's statements on Middle East (*see Egypt*).

15 May—Prime Minister in Persia (*see Persia*).

PALESTINE. 11 May—Israel's admission to United Nations (*see General Assembly*).



13 May—Agreement on diplomatic status with Britain (*see Great Britain*).

17 May—*Armistice Talks*. The negotiations between Israel and Syria were suspended 'until and if' further proposals were made by Dr Bunche, the acting Mediator.

PERSIA. 11 May—The Government sent a Note to the Soviet Embassy protesting against a recent incident when Soviet patrols had crossed the border of Azerbaijan and seized two Persian soldiers.

15 May—Mr Liaquat Ali Khan, Prime Minister of Pakistan, arrived in Teheran from Baghdad, for a short visit.

18 May—It was announced that eight members of the Tudeh Party had been sentenced to death by court-martial and nine others to periods of imprisonment ranging from five to ten years. All were stated to be in hiding and were sentenced *in absentia*.

SOUTH AFRICA. 6 May—Dr Malan, Prime Minister, returned from London.

British statement on south-west Africa (*see Great Britain*).

9 May—Mr Louw's speech on native policy (*see United States*).

The Minister of Native Affairs told the Senate that the Government intended gradually to divide European and native residential areas of towns and later to try to separate the natives tribally. The natives would be encouraged to develop in their own areas and to take a greater part in native administration.

11 May—*Commonwealth*. In a statement to the Assembly on the London Conference, Dr Malan paid tribute to the Commonwealth's adaptability in changing world circumstances. He had made it clear at the conference that the term 'head of the Commonwealth' as applied to the Crown should imply no formal Constitutional function—a point which had been unanimously accepted. He had indicated, however, that he did not wish to detract from the common allegiance to the Crown and though he believed that South Africa's greatest chance of unity lay in a republic there were other more urgent matters to attend to at the moment. In any case South Africa should never leave the Commonwealth. Gen. Smuts, after congratulating Dr Malan on the success of his mission, said he would prefer to regard the case of India as an exception.

Mr Havenga, Minister of Finance, told Parliament that as a result of discussions concluded with representatives of the International Monetary Fund, the Union would continue to sell semi-processed gold, though with added safeguards.

12 May—*Commonwealth*. Dr Malan, continuing the debate, stated that no republican moves would be made during the life of the existing Parliament. He also said that when in London he had had informal discussions with British Ministers on the need for collaboration in preserving Africa as a western and Christian continent against the threats of Communism and the influx of Asiatics. He had also discussed informally the future of the three British protectorates in South Africa whose future incorporation in the Union had been clearly indicated at the time of

SOUTH AFRICA (*continued*)

union, forty years ago, and about which no progress had been made. In private discussions with Pandit Nehru he had made suggestions for the solution of disagreements between South Africa and India to which the Indian Prime Minister had 'listened in a friendly spirit'.

16 May—Seven natives were arrested in Durban as a result of a new series of incidents in which Indian buses were attacked and an Indian factory set alight.

SPAIN. 7 May—U.N. vote to restore diplomatic relations (*see Political Committee*).

11 May—Statements by Mr Bevin and Mr Acheson (*see Great Britain and United States*).

12 May—Extension of trade agreement (*see Great Britain*).

15 May—The Brazilian, Peruvian, and Bolivian Consulates-General in Barcelona were damaged by bombs which exploded almost simultaneously. There were no casualties.

16 May—Proposal to restore diplomatic relations rejected (*see General Assembly*).

18 May—In a speech at the opening of the Cortes, Gen. Franco accused Britain of failing to keep her promises and quoted Mr Churchill as having told the Ambassador in London in the early stages of the war that 'if England wins the war she will help Spain become a strong Power in the Mediterranean and support her rightful territorial aspirations in North Africa'. He also alleged that in January 1944 Britain had agreed to a U.S. plan to attack the German 'Atlantic Wall' by an invasion through Spain—a proposal which had been scotched by the U.S.S.R.

SYRIA. 17 May—Suspension of armistice talks (*see Palestine*).

TURKEY. 6 May—Mr Sadak received by Mr Bevin (*see Great Britain*).

12 May—British pledge re-affirmed (*see Great Britain*).

## UNITED NATIONS.

## ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

6 May—'The Economic Survey of Europe in 1948', which was published, recorded a year of general progress. Industrial production had surpassed the 1938 level for the first time since the war and agricultural production, though still much below the pre-war level, had improved by about 12 per cent. The productivity of industrial labour was less than a quarter, and of agricultural labour about one-sixth of the comparable American figures. This was mainly due to the low rate of capital investment which amounted to about \$12 a head of the population against \$65 a head in the U.S.A. Trade had increased, with a rise in overseas exports of nearly 30 per cent and a fall in overseas imports of 6 per cent. Intra-European trade had increased by 25 per cent, remaining however at 30 per cent below the pre-war volume. The total deficit in the European balance of payments with the outside world fell from \$7,600 million in 1947 to \$5,600 million in 1948, and this deficit was

mainly financed by U.S. grants under the European Recovery Programme. Future progress depended mainly on the internal policies of the European nations, the continued supply of necessary raw materials from abroad, and the economic policy of the U.S.A. which should 'plan ahead its long-term lending to the rest of the world in a manner that would generate a predictable flow of dollars and thus permit the restoration of international currency convertibility'.

9 May—The fourth annual session was opened in Geneva by Professor Myrdal, executive secretary, who spoke of the growth of national protectionism in Europe. Only by an expansion of east-west trade could the general standard of living be raised. Mr Harriman, European representative of the E.C.A. supported this view. A reason why this trade had not grown more rapidly was the failure of the eastern European countries to export more of the commodities that they had traditionally supplied to western Europe. If intra-European trade were to reach the level required for genuine recovery there must be an advance from the prevalent bilateral system to a freer multilateral system.

13 May—East European speakers in a debate on east-west trade claimed that the chief obstacles to such trade were the British and U.S. export licensing systems. Mr Mayhew (Britain) said that his country was anxious to trade as much as possible with the East. They were opposed to trade discrimination—such as that practised by the Cominform against Yugoslavia—and the British system of imposing export licences on war materials and materials likely to be used for war purposes was a recognized international practice equally in use in the east European countries themselves.

17 May—A Russian proposal that the Commission should seek to organize international investment in under-developed countries, particularly in Eastern Europe, was opposed by Mr Mayhew who said that Britain was unable to resume substantial foreign lending and that a study of the plan would be waste of time. Mr Arutiunan (U.S.S.R.) refuted U.S. accusations that his country was 'exploiting her eastern satellites', by citing figures to show that Soviet exports to eastern Europe the previous year had exceeded imports by 20 per cent. He then accused the U.S.A. of impeding the development of east-west trade through the Marshall Plan.

18 May—It was agreed to refer the recommendations on east-west trade to a working-party of delegates from five eastern and five western countries, together with one delegate from the U.S.A.

#### GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

12 May—In a speech to the delegates Mr Harriman, European representative of the E.C.A., referred to the close relationship between the programme of the International Trade Organization and the European Recovery Programme, and emphasized the importance of setting up a trading system which would reduce trade barriers, provide for economic specialization, increase productivity, and help to solve the balance of payments problem.

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## GENERAL ASSEMBLY

11 *May—Israel.* Israel was admitted as the fifty-ninth member State by a plenary session vote of 37 to 12 with 9 abstentions.

14 *May—South Africa.* An Indian resolution seeking the appointment of a U.N. Commission to investigate the treatment of Indians in South Africa failed to obtain the requisite two-thirds majority and was withdrawn. A resolution introduced by France and Mexico inviting India, Pakistan, and South Africa to discuss the problem at a round-table conference was adopted by 47 votes to 1 (South Africa). Mr Louw made a statement protesting against U.N. intervention with the internal affairs of sovereign States and denying that Indians were deprived of human rights in his country.

*Freedom of Information.* The convention on news transmission and rights of correction was adopted by 33 votes to 6, with 11 abstentions.

16 *May—Spain.* In discussion on the Political Committee's recommendation to allow members freedom of action in their diplomatic relations with Spain Mr McNeil (Britain) again denied Polish charges that his country had supplied war materials to Spain, and accused Poland of supplying her with bomber engines. While his Government disapproved the Franco régime they had always considered the 1946 resolution providing for the withdrawal of Ambassadors would be ineffective—as indeed it had proved. But Britain could not associate herself with attempts to revoke these measures since such an action would be interpreted as approval of Franco. The proposal failed to get a two-thirds majority and was therefore rejected—the voting being 26 for the motion, 15 against (including 4 Latin American countries), and 16 abstentions (including Britain, France, and the U.S.A.). A Polish resolution calling for a ban on shipment of war materials and other economic sanctions against Spain was defeated by 40 votes to 6, with 7 abstentions.

17 *May—Ex-Italian Colonies.* In discussion by a plenary session of the Bevin-Sforza plan, the clause relating to Italian trusteeship over Tripolitania in 1951 failed to get a two-thirds majority, the voting being 33 to 17, with 8 abstentions. With this provision deleted the Latin American delegates decided to withdraw their support from the proposals as a whole and in the final voting, which took place after midnight, the remainder of the draft was rejected by 37 votes to 14, with 7 abstentions. The Soviet proposals for the independence of Libya in five years, and for the appointment of a U.N. administrator for each of the territories were also rejected.

18 *May—Ex-Italian Colonies.* A Cuban proposal that the problem be referred to the 'Little Assembly' was defeated by 27 votes to 21, with 11 abstentions. It was finally agreed to postpone the whole question until the next session of the Assembly.

*Political Committee*

5 *May—Spain.* A resolution tabled the previous day by Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, and Peru urging that member States should be allowed full freedom of action in their diplomatic relations with Spain

was opposed by Mr Katz Suchy (Poland) who alleged that a secret agreement existed between Franco and the combined chiefs of staff, and that U.S. military missions had been making air preparations on Spanish territory and in African possessions. His counter-proposals called on members to comply with previous pronouncements and to cease exporting arms and war materials to Spain. With the establishment of a democratic Government Spain would be welcomed to U.N. membership. Mr Louw (South Africa) urged members to be 'realistic'. His Government would support any resolution that sought to end the existing situation.

6 May—*Spain*. Mr Gromyko (U.S.S.R.) supported the Polish resolution and accused Britain and the U.S.A. of 'actively converting Spain into a military base for use in a war . . . against the U.S.S.R.' Mr Atherton (U.S.A.) declared that his Government's attitude to Spain remained unchanged and that the U.S.A. had no military or naval missions in Spain and no air bases there.

7 May—*Spain*. After a debate in which Mr McNeil (Britain) refuted as 'lies' Polish charges that Britain had supplied Spain with jet aircraft and other war materials, the Latin-American resolution was adopted by 25 votes to 16, with 16 abstentions (including Britain, the U.S.A., and France).

8 May—*Ex-Italian Colonies*. Bevin-Sforza plan (*see Italy*).

9 May—*Israel*. The *ad hoc* committee recommended Israel's admission to U.N. membership by 33 votes to 11, with 13 abstentions (including Britain, Denmark, France, and Sweden).

*South Africa*. The Indian delegate accused South Africa of having embarked on 'the most thorough-going racial suppression and discrimination that the world has ever known' in her treatment of the Indian population, more than 90 per cent of whom were now South African nationals. He urged the United Nations to make investigations into the matter.

*Ex-Italian Colonies*. Mr Gromyko (U.S.S.R.) revised some of the clauses of his plan of 9 April to provide for the independence of Libya after five years and of Somaliland after ten. He also proposed that the number of members of the consultative committees should be increased to nine and include a delegate from a neighbouring country. The whole problem was later sent to the sub-committee for drafting.

10 May—*Ex-Italian Colonies*. The sub-committee rejected the Soviet proposals by 10 votes to 2, with 4 abstentions, and also an Iraqi proposal to grant immediate independence to Libya by 10 votes to 5, with 1 abstention. Mr Clutton (Britain) submitted the suggestions on Libya contained in the Bevin-Sforza agreement, emphasizing that they were not intended to prejudice the right of the Assembly to take its own decision. These proposals were adopted by 8 votes (including the Latin-American countries) to 5, with 3 abstentions.

*Indonesia*. The *ad hoc* Committee decided by 42 votes to 6, with 4 abstentions, in the light of the progress made in the Batavia negotiations, to defer discussions until the next session of the Assembly.

*South Africa*. Mr Louw (South Africa) declared that India's com-

GENERAL ASSEMBLY *Political Committee (continued)*

plaint was outside the competence of the Assembly and withdrew from the discussions.

11 *May—Ex-Italian Colonies.* The sub-committee accepted in principle by 10 votes to 3, with 2 abstentions, the British proposal that the eastern part of Eritrea should be ceded to Ethiopia, but expressed reservations about the special guarantees to be given to Italian minorities in Asmara and Massawa. It also approved by 7 votes to 2, with 6 abstentions, the proposal that the western part of Eritrea should be incorporated in the Sudan. The Indian delegate, the sixteenth member of the committee, was absent when both votes were taken. A Soviet proposal for direct U.N. trusteeship over Eritrea was defeated by 8 votes to 2, with 6 abstentions.

12 *May—Ex-Italian Colonies.* Spokesmen of local political groups in the former Italian Colonies condemned the Bevin-Sforza plan, which had been passed to the main committee by the sub-committee in the form of a resolution. Dr Aneizi, representing the National Council for the Liberation of Libya, said he had received a cable signed by notables in Tripoli stating that as Britain had abandoned the people of Tripolitania in their last hour they had decided from that day to declare 'civil resistance to the British Administration'. He asserted that the British proposals violated the principles of the Atlantic Charter and could only be imposed by force of arms. A spokesman for the three main parties in Eritrea asked that a neutral U.N. Commission be sent to the territory to ascertain the views of the people. They were opposed both to partition and to annexation, and if immediate independence were not granted them they asked for direct U.N. trusteeship. A similar preference had been stated in writing by Cyrenaican delegates.

13 *May—Ex-Italian Colonies.* The Bevin-Sforza plan was approved by 34 votes to 16, with 7 abstentions, exclusive of the proposal to incorporate the western province of Eritrea into the Sudan, which was defeated by 19 votes to 16, with 21 abstentions. Turkey was appointed to the five-Power advisory council in Tripolitania in the place of Egypt who withdrew, not wishing to be associated with preparations for the return there of Italy.

## SECURITY COUNCIL

10 *May—Trieste.* The Soviet proposal to appoint Col. Flueckiger as Governor of Trieste was defeated by 9 abstentions to 2 votes.

UNITED STATES. 5 *May—Berlin.* An official statement was issued in Washington, London, Moscow, and Paris as follows:— The Governments of France, the U.S.S.R., the United Kingdom, and the United States have reached the following agreement: (1) All the restrictions imposed since 1 March 1948 by the Government of the U.S.S.R. on communications, transportation, and trade between Berlin and the western Zones of Germany and between the eastern Zone and the western Zone will be removed on 12 May 1949; (2) All the restrictions imposed since 1 March 1948 by the Governments of France, the



United Kingdom, and the United States, or any one of them, on communications, transportation, and trade between Berlin and the eastern Zone and between the western and the eastern Zones of Germany will also be removed on 12 May 1949; (3) Eleven days subsequent to the removal of the restrictions referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2—namely, on 23 May 1949—a meeting of the Council of the Foreign Ministers will be convened in Paris to consider questions relating to Germany and problems arising out of the situation in Berlin, including also the question of currency in Berlin.

*Atlantic Pact.* Mr Wallace, leader of the Progressive Party gave evidence against the pact in his testimony to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

*6 May—Japan.* The State Department issued a statement saying that Japan should be given increasing direction of her own foreign and domestic affairs, as this would contribute greatly to Japanese economic recovery. A recommendation had been made to the Far Eastern Commission that Japanese delegates should be allowed to attend international conferences.

*7 May—Germany.* A State Department official said that the Government were still committed to a long-term occupation policy in Germany and that they would reject any Russian proposal at the Council of Foreign Ministers for the early withdrawal of occupation forces.

*9 May—Mr Louw,* South African Minister for Economic Development and Mines, said in a speech in New York that his country was in danger of 'coming into the hands of a black proletariat with strong Communist backing'. The Government intended to keep political control 'in the hands of those who represent European culture and civilization', though the natives would be given full opportunity for industrial and professional development.

*10 May—Spain.* Senator Connally, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, told the Senate: 'I have never seen any logic in having diplomatic relations with Russia and not with Spain.'

*11 May—Spain.* Mr Acheson told a press conference that the U.S.A. would abstain from voting when the U.N. Political Committee's resolution to restore diplomatic relations with Spain came before the General Assembly because this was primarily the concern of western European countries and positive U.S. action would be detrimental to the harmony of western Europe. The Government felt that it would not be right to resume full relations with Spain so long as she failed to recognize the rights of individual liberties. The question why recognition had not been withdrawn from the Iron Curtain countries was 'dialectical'.

*Germany.* Mr Acheson gave a warning against undue optimism about Germany where the lifting of the blockade had done nothing to solve the fundamental differences between East and West. He reaffirmed that the Government would not accept any plan for a unified Germany which did not guarantee basic civil rights to the German people.

The Army Department announced that Gen. Huebner would succeed Gen. Clay on 15 May both as Acting Military Governor in Germany and as Acting Commander of the U.S. Armed Forces in Europe.

UNITED STATES (*continued*)

*Council of Europe.* Mr Acheson made a statement welcoming the signature of the statute.

*China.* Mr Acheson received the Chinese Ambassador, Dr Wellington Koo, who said afterwards that he had asked for 'definite assurances', similar to the Atlantic Pact, of U.S. moral and material support for anti-Communist forces in Asia. The lack of such an assurance would be misinterpreted as an indication that the U.S.A. was not concerned with the outcome of events in China.

12 May—*Spain.* Mr Truman told a press conference that he agreed with Mr Acheson's statement on the reasons for abstaining from voting on the recognition of Spain.

*Far Eastern Commission.* The U.S. representative on the Commission, Gen. McCoy, issued a statement declaring that further reparations from Japan should cease in order to allow the country to stabilize its economy and to move towards self-support. In view of Japan's economic plight, she should be allowed to develop her peaceful industries without limitation.

13 May—It was announced in Washington that Mr F. P. Matthews had been appointed to succeed Mr Sullivan as Secretary of the Navy.

14 May—*Military Aid.* A policy paper on the military assistance programme issued by the State Department said that the western European defences were so inadequate that they 'invite military aggression'. The proposed aid would consist of: (1) a small amount of dollar aid; (2) arms and equipment; (3) technical and training assistance.

16 May—*European Recovery Programme.* The President's third quarterly report on the E.C.A. stated that most of the countries in western Europe had nearly completed the first stage of recovery—the restoration of production and trade to pre-war levels—but that they had barely started on the second phase—the necessary adjustment and expansion of their economies to enable them to become self-supporting before the end of E.R.P.

17 May—*Spain.* The Export-Import Bank confirmed a report that it had turned down an informal request for a loan to Spain.

*Germany.* Gen. Clay returned to Washington and was decorated by the President for 'services of supreme value'. He later told a press conference that occupation troops should be kept in Germany until conditions in Europe had improved.

18 May—The President of Brazil, Gen. Dutra, arrived in Washington for a short visit as the guest of the Government.

*Germany.* It was announced that the President had nominated Mr McCloy, President of the World Bank, to be U.S. High Commissioner for Germany.

*Pacific Defence.* Mr Acheson told a press conference that the Government were 'not currently considering participation in any further collective defence arrangements' and quoted with approval Pandit Nehru's recent remark that a Pacific defence pact was impossible until the current internal conflicts in Asia were resolved.

U.S.S.R. 5 *May*—Agreement on lifting of Berlin blockade and meeting of Council of Foreign Ministers (*see United States*).

11 *May*—Persian protest about frontier incident (*see Persia*).

WESTERN UNION. 5 *May*—Signature of Statute of Council of Europe and all further references to this subject (*see Council of Europe*).

6 *May*—Field-Marshal Montgomery arrived at The Hague on a five-day visit for discussions with Dutch military authorities.

YUGOSLAVIA. 6 *May*—A motor boat taking part in a sporting contest on Lake Skadar was machine gunned by Albanian frontier guards, according to the official news agency. After wounding two of the occupants the Albanians towed the boat back to their shore.

9 *May*—It was announced in Belgrade that Yugoslav frontier guards had shot a Hungarian soldier who had illegally crossed the frontier and ignored their challenges.

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

- June — U.N. Trusteeship Council, Fifth Session, Lake Success.
- „ — International Trade Union Conference to discuss the setting up of a 'Free Trade Union International'.
- „ 7 ICAO, Third Assembly, Montreal.
- „ 8 I.L.O. Conference, Geneva.
- „ 13 F.A.O. Council, Sixth Session, Paris.
- „ 13 U.N. World Health Assembly, Second Session, Rome.
- „ 26 Scandinavian Economic Conference, Copenhagen.
- „ 26 General Elections, Belgium.
- „ 27 General Elections, Canada.
- „ 29 World Congress of World Federation of Trade Unions, Milan.
- July — General elections, Western Germany.
- „ 1 Benelux countries enter into provisional economic union.
- „ 5 Economic and Social Council, Ninth Session, Geneva.
- „ 10 U.N. World Forestry Congress, Helsinki.
- „ 28 World Assembly of Youth, Brussels.
- Aug. — Inaugural meeting of the Council of Europe, Strasbourg.
- „ 17 U.N. Scientific Conference on the Conservation and Utilization of Resources, Lake Success.
- „ 21 General Assembly of Liberal International, Versailles.